

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 SAM-01

EB-07 FEA-01 COME-00 PM-03 /030 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:FCRUMP:JK

APPROVED BY AF/S:RTHAVERKAMP

AF:EWMULCAHY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL LUANDA NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ENRG, AO

SUBJECT: SITUATION OF MOBIL TANKER

REF.: LUANDA 1084

1. DEPARTMENT CONVEYED INFORMATION IN REFTEL TO MOBIL OFFICIALS. THEY HAVE INFORMED US THAT AFTER CLOSE STUDY OF LUANDA HARBOR, THEY NOT PREPARED SEND IN TANKER. THEY INDICATE TANKER MUST PASS WITHIN ONE MILE OF FORT AND PROCEED SEVERAL MILES BEYOND. THEY CONTINUE TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF RANDOM FIRING AND, IN VIEW OF HIGH COMBUSTABILITY OF PARTIALLY LOADED TANKER, THEY BELIEVE RISK TO CREW, AND POSSIBLY TO PEOPLE ON SHORE AS WELL, IS TOO GREAT. ONE OFFICIAL SPECULATED ON POSSIBILITY THAT ONE OF NATIONALIST GROUPS MIGHT CONCLUDE ITS INTERESTS WOULD BE SERVED BY FUEL SHORTAGE AND FIRE ON TANKER.

2. MOBIL OFFICIALS STATE THAT THEY NOT CERTAIN OF EXACT
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LOCATION "MOBIL REFINER" BUT THAT IT HAS INSTRUCTIONS TO

REMAIN OFF COAST NEAR LOBITO. THEY STATE THAT MOBIL REP
LUANDA WAS APPARENTLY IN COMMUNICATION AUGUST 7 WITH
ANOTHER TANKER NEARER TO LUANDA WHICH HE MISTAKENLY BELIEVED
TO BE "MOBIL REFINER." THIS OTHER TANKER HAS CARGO OF
LUBRICANTS.

3. BELIEVE BEST WAY OPEN TO US TO CONVINCE MOBIL TO
RECONSIDER IS TO TELL THEM WE HAVE ASSURANCES FROM MPLA
AND FNLA THAT THEY WILL DECLARE TRUCE FOR UNLOADING.
SUGGEST YOU SEEK SUCH ASSURANCES AND REPORT RESULTS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, PETROLEUM, MARINE SAFETY, POLITICAL SITUATION, CARGO SHIPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE187284
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FCRUMP:JK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750273-0656
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750872/aaaacrlm.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LUANDA 1084
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 AUG 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2003 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SITUATION OF MOBIL TANKER
TAGS: ENRG, AO
To: LUANDA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006